

May 19, 1961

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REC'D-READING ROOM

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RECEIVED TOLSON
FBI

Honorable Robert K. Gray
Vice President
Washington Operations
Hill and Knowlton, Incorporated
1000 Sixteenth Street, Northwest
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Bob:

Your letter dated May 10, 1961, has been received and I want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for your thoughtfulness in sending me the information contained therein. I am taking the liberty of advising other interested Government agencies of these data.

Sincerely,

Edgar

JFW:fag
(3)

NOTE:

Gray advised First Friends of Africa, Sidney Williams, President, to hold conference in Chicago on 6-30-61. Bufiles contain no information concerning the First Friends of Africa. With respect to Sidney Williams, we conducted investigation 1943-1950 during which it was determined that in 1936 he traveled with a group of communists from St. Louis to the Soviet Union; in 1942 he allegedly was a member of the Communist Party in Cleveland; in 1945 his name was mentioned at a Communist Political Association meeting as a possible nominee to the CPA State Committee of Ohio; in 1950 he attended the Progressive Party National Convention in Chicago (the Progressive Party was controlled by the Communist Party). By separate communication Chicago, New York and WFO are being instructed to obtain information concerning the First Friends of Africa. Information provided by Gray has been disseminated to State and CIA by letter 5-18-61.

MAILED 50
MAY 20 1961
COMM-FBI

- Tolson
- Parsons
- Mohr
- Belmont
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Evans
- Malone
- Rosen
- Tavel
- Trotter
- W.C. Sullivan
- Tele. Room
- Ingram
- Gandy

XEROX

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JUN 13 1961

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HILL AND KNOWLTON, INC.
Public Relations Counsel
1000 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

STERLING 3-0270

ROBERT K. GRAY
Vice President-Washington Operations

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

May 10, 1961

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Director: First Friends of Ghana

One of our clients, the Republic of Liberia, has received an invitation from Mr. Sidney Williams, president of the First Friends of Africa in Chicago. Mr. Williams is proposing a June 30 nationwide conference to be attended -- he hopes -- by the African Ambassadors and as many of the heads of African states as he can draw.

In our preliminary investigation of Mr. Williams we have uncovered a charge that he was a member of the Communist party in St. Louis as well as active in the Urban League and the National Lawyers Guild. The organization he now heads has run full-page advertisements in the Daily Worker.

Naturally we are advising Liberia against participation. My only purpose in passing this on to you was on the rare chance that you might not otherwise have heard of the meeting Mr. Williams proposes.

Cordially,

Bob (Gray)

REC-39

MAY 26 1961

XEROX
MAY 29 1961

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☐	Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
☐	Service Unit - Room 6524
☐	Forward to File Review
☐	Attention _____
☒	Return to <u>Mossburg 1521</u>
	Supervisor <u>J</u> Room Ext.

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)
☐ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive),
☒ Subversive References Only
☐ Nonsubversive References Only
☐ Main _____ References Only

☒ Restricted to Locality of DC
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject Hull and Knowlton, Inc
 Birthdate & Place _____
 Address _____

Localities

R# _____ Date 5-15 Searcher Initials hja
Prod. _____

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

NI	62-66506-19
NI	97-0-1307 p 2
NI	429
NI	161-0-20
NI	62-102938-1

✓ IND 100-356921-40

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

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☐ Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

☒ Restricted to Locality of Mo + all
☒ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject

Sidney Williams

Birthdate & Place

Address

Localities

R#

Date

5-15

Searcher

Initials

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Prod.

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

N1	64-32716	
✓ P1	100-197351	
✓ P1		b3
	Defender 2-14-61	b6
NI	100-2-2946	b7C
		b7E
- NI		
	2/26/61	
- NI	94-1-891-97	
loc	94-1-155-8	
NI	94-1-152-5493	
NI	62-33823-303	
NI	1-4-5291-5294	
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NI	62-75147-43-125	25
NI	1-10-1782	4 rev
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Records Branch

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☐ Restricted to Locality of _____
☒ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject First Friends of
 Birthdate & Place Africa
 Address _____

Localities _____

R# _____ Date 5-15 Searcher Initials hij
 Prod. _____

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

NR

5-26-61

Airtel

EX 101

To: SAC, Chicago

REC-39

From: Director, FBI

FIRST FRIENDS OF AFRICA, aka.
IS - AFRICA

ReCGairtel 5-23-61.

Furnish Bureau and recipient offices a corrected page 1 of the enclosure to reairtel clarifying the first sentence under paragraph numbered 2. Charge error of form to personnel responsible.

1 - New York
1 - WFO

EHM:fag
(6)

Tolson _____
Parsons _____
Mohr _____
Belmont _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
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Tavel _____
Trotter _____
W.C. Sullivan _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____



JUN 14 1961

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